[18th July 1953

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" Accessibility is considered in every case and such instruction is already there."

9-50 a.m. SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to give the number of Harijan colonies in our State that are not provided with drinking-water wells and where the Harijans have to depend on other places in which the caste Hindus are a menace to the Harijans so far as the drinking-water problem is concerned? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" I cannot give the exact figure just at present, Sir."

SRI M. JAGANNATHAN :—" Wherever wells are dug for the benefit of the Harijans under the Rural Water Supply scheme, the caste Hindus are not allowing them to use those wells. May I know from the Hon. Minister what steps does he propose to take to obliterate such disabilities? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" Public opinion must prevail and wherever necessary, legal action will be taken."

SRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH :—" May I know what is the amount transferred to the Rural Welfare Department for the purpose of digging wells this year? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" Notice, Sir."

Arrest of Sri Madala Kotaiah and Madala Narasaiah of Ongole taluk.

* 654 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the date on which Sri Madala Kotaiah and Madala Narasaiah of Mynampad, Ongole taluk of Guntur district, were arrested;

(*b*) the date and place where they were shot by the police; and

(*c*) the causes for the shooting?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (*a*) The date is 13th September 1950.

" (*b*) & (*c*) Madala Kotaiah and Madala Narasaiah were two of the accused in a case of rioting attended with murder, arson and looting that occurred in Mynampad village. They were arrested at 6 p.m. They were fed and taken under police escort in a land rover to Ongole at about 10 p.m. in the night. The rover reached a place known as Gundlavagu at about 10-15 p.m. Here the way was blocked by those who were in sympathy by boulders placed across the road. Two shots were fired from a nearby mound and torch lights were flashed on them. Suddenly Madala

18th July 1953]

Kotaiah, one of the two prisoners stepped out of the rover, snatched the rifle of one of the escorting police constables and ran towards the mound. After this the other prisoner also stepped out of the rover and was seen running towards the mound. The Circle Inspector of Police ordered the opening of fire. Seven rounds were fired. Both the prisoners fell down dead. The persons on the other side of the mound ran away in spite of a chase.

"The Joint Magistrate, Ongole, enquired into the incident and was satisfied that fire was opened in order to prevent their escape from lawful custody and also in self-defence and that the opening of fire was justified."

SRI M. NARAYANASWAMI :—"These two boys were arrested and were taken in a police van in which there were about 22 to 25 policemen. The hands of those boys were fully tied. That being the case, do the Government seriously believe that it would have been possible for these two peasant boys to get down from the van and snatch away the gun from the policemen?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—"The numbers and ages that were indicated in the supplementary question cannot be accepted by me on the spot. If the hon. Member had been present there, I might consider whether I could take his evidence. But so far as the question goes, it is impossible for us now to judge the circumstances. I take it that this took place in 1950. If all these facts which are alleged now had been brought before the Joint Magistrate, he could not have got over them as he has done."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—"It is evident that those two persons were handcuffed and taken in a police van."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—"We cannot accept the presumption that anybody was handcuffed and taken unless there was some evidence about it."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—"In those days persons were handcuffed and taken. Particularly, when I was arrested I was taken like that. So the Hon. Chief Minister's statement is incorrect even on the very face of it, and there is no justification for his statement. A serious allegation has been made that they were handcuffed and taken in a police van. The explanation given by the police is that they tried to escape. On the face of it such explanation appears to be false."

MR. SPEAKER :—"The hon. Member will please put it in the form of a question."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—"Yes, it is coming, Sir. (Laugther.) Despite the fact that this incident took place some three years ago, as this is a very serious matter, may I know whether the Government will appoint an Enquiry Committee to go into the whole matter?"

[18th July 1953

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, a long speech has been made and arguments have been put forward. I presume if I state exactly what took place before this incident, hon. Members could guess for themselves what might have happened or what might not have happened.

" During 1950, there was local faction in Mynampad village in Ongole taluk. In the elections to the Tobacco Marketing Committee conducted at that place, a Communist was defeated by the opposite party. On the night of 11th September 1950, Madala Narayanaswami, a local Communist along with his brother Kotaiah collected some Madigas of the village and the local Kammas of the Communist group and raided the village. They were in all about 40 armed with spears, bill-hooks and sticks. At about midnight after scaring away the local defence guards, they first attacked the house of Mundlamuri Ramalingam, a rich Kamma of the opposite party. He was chased out of the house and stabbed to death with spears, and jewels and cash worth about Rs. 9,000 were stolen from his house. The raiders next attacked the house of one G. Ellamanda another rich Kamma in the village. He managed to escape. The raiders ransacked his house and poured crude oil stocked in the house over piles of jute and tobacco and set fire to them. On account of this, a portion of the roof of the house was also burnt. Lastly, the house of one Madala Ramaiah, the President of the Panchayat Board of the village was attacked. He had gone to Ongole on that day. The raiders burnt the records of the Panchayat Board and took away some silverware and cash worth about Rs. 1,000. Then the party retired.

" We can now guess what these people could do on an occasion when there was a favourable opportunity."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" My question was not answered, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Let the hon. Member resume his seat. I will call him again."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I understand and I am confirmed that Madala Narayanasamy is here in this House. I am sorry he was one of the accused."

10 a.m SRI M. NARAYANASWAMI :—" The Hon. the Chief Minister read a long report written by the Police. Does he know that all the accused in that case were acquitted and whether one, Mr. Venkatasubbayya Choudhry, who was the police officer on the spot and who shot these two boys dead, took Rs. 6,000 from one of the landlords? I understand that he has returned the money recently or so . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I cannot allow such long statements. Only one question must be put at a time."

18th July 1953]

SRI M. NARAYANASWAMI :—" I am asking the Government whether they are aware of these incidents."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I am sorry, Sir, the Member who is asking the question is so personally interested in the matter that it is not right for us either to interrupt him or to allow him to proceed in this manner."

SRI G. YELLAMANDA REDDI :—" Is the Chief Minister aware of the fact that these innocent people were shot for the simple reason that they were the relatives of a Communist? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I am not aware of it and I do not really understand why the hon. Member presumes so."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether anybody else was wounded when these persons tried to escape when a party of the sympathisers of these two persons came to rescue them? If not, can it not be presumed that these two persons were deliberately shot down and that there was no riot at all to rescue these people? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I have given the facts as I have found them from the findings that were arrived at soon after the incident. I cannot go beyond that and follow up the suggestions of the hon. Member from Malabar."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" Are the Government of Madras aware of the fact that the case filed by the Police against these persons was dismissed and hence the Police report itself was a false report? Will the Government basing its findings on the court decision, be prepared to appoint an enquiry committee to go into this question. Will they have the courage and the will to do so even though it is too late? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I have read the incidents. I do not think even hon. Members belonging to the Communist Party will deny the incidents. The identification of persons concerned is a totally different matter. Courts are still functioning justly and with great care and every presumption is made in favour of the persons charged wherever there is a doubt. Men may be acquitted but that does not mean that men are innocent."

SRI V. CHIDANANDAM :—" Were any private complaints filed individually about these incidents? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I think, Sir, this is the first private complaint." (Laughter.)

SRI G. RAMA RAO :—" May I know whether the Hon. the Chief Minister believes this report himself in his heart of hearts? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The mind of man is difficult to understand, Sir."

[18th July 1953

Sri K. SUBBA REDDI :—" అధ్యక్షా, మాదలకోటయ్యమీదను, నరసయ్య మీదను పోలీసు కాల్పులు కాల్చిన సందర్భములో, నారాయణస్వామిగారు పోలీసు ఆఫీసరు ఆరువేల రూపాయలు పుచ్చుకున్నట్టున్నూ అందులో మూడువేలు వాపసు చేసినట్టున్నూ చెప్పారు. ఇది చాలా ముఖ్యమయిన విషయము. పోలీసు ఆఫీసరు యింకను యివ్వవలసిన మూడు వేల రూపాయలు వడ్డీతోగూడా వాపసు తప్పకుండా చేస్తారో లేదో మాకందరకు నిరాఘాటంగా తెలుసు. ఈ విషయములో ఒక నిష్పాక్షిక enquiry ప్రభుత్వంవారు చేయిస్తారా, లేదా అని అడుగుతున్నాను."

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" If there are any complaints and disputes in respect of amounts received or paid either corruptly or otherwise, the matter may be taken up by the new State and not by me."

Sri R. SIDDANNA GOWD :—" Where were these two persons seated, Sir? Were they not seated by the police on either side, escorted and watched by them or were they alone?"

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The hon. Member is not aware that there is a great variety of seating arrangements in such cases. It depends on the friendship acquired at the time concerned and the amount of deception practised and I know from previous experience that a number of persons have successfully escaped although a great number of persons have not escaped."

Sri PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" Are the Government aware that when these two persons were being taken in the lorry, they were handcuffed? I want the Chief Minister to have some patience and answer me . . ."

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I want to interrupt the hon. Member before he proceeds further. It is impossible to answer questions which amount practically to an enquiry as I was not present on the spot. I repeat that if any further doubts and difficulties seriously and sincerely arise, they should be put before the new Government."

Sri PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" The Chief Minister, perhaps knowing full well that the Police report was not entirely correct, read it out here. Hence all these questions have arisen. If he is prepared to withdraw that report, though he has read it, we will not put any questions."

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" How can I withdraw a report which was sent by one officer to another? Three years have now elapsed after the event and a judicial finding is something on which I can rely, act and speak upon. If after three years, a matter is to be opened, I crave postponement of the disputes for three months more."

Sri M. NARAYANASWAMI :—" I request a half-hour debate on this matter, Sir."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" I am not going to allow a half-hour debate."